

# Crossroads

THE MAGAZINE

March 1997



## Carlos Newberry Mario Phillips

Looking Toward  
A Promising  
Future

PLUS: Boys and Girls  
Club 40th Anniversary!

Outstanding Alumni!



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# Crossroads

## THE MAGAZINE

March 1997

Vol. 5

Issue 1

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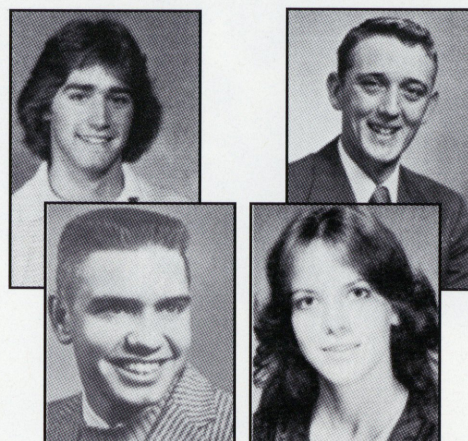
**ABOUT THE COVER:** *Carlos Newberry  
and Mario Phillips are two of Missouri  
Southern’s premier basketball players.  
Photo by John Smith*

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**T**his year the Boys and Girls Club will celebrate its 40th year as one of the largest outreach programs in Joplin.

The anniversary means little to the youngsters that flock to the center every day after school to get help with their homework and play with friends. They are just happy to have a place to go.

The center offers much more than homework assistance and pick-up games.

"We offer kids love, a caring heart, personal attention, and hopefully a trustworthy relationship," said director Rob Clay.

Located at Third and Comingo, the Boys and Girls club targets underprivileged children that may need some encouragement, and provides them with a loving, fun environment.

"A lot of what we offer here exceeds what these children are getting at home," said Clay. "That's not good, but at least they're getting it somewhere."

Along with the attention and games, a small meal is provided after school. The children are taught how to prepare the meal and are responsible for cleaning up afterwards.

Because the club is a non-profit organization, Clay relies on a small staff and numerous volunteers.

"You have to have a big heart in this business," said Clay. "There's a lot

# THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB of JOPLIN

Laura Wilhelm spends quality time with a youngster at the boys and girls club.



PHOTO BY IDALIE JANNSSON

**By Rachel Deyo**

of needy children out there."

Parris Smith, a junior Communications major, volunteers a few days a week at the center. Smith plays basketball with the kids and directs plays for special programs. He has been helping at the center for four years.

"I've enjoyed watching some of them mature and make choices," said Smith. "It makes me feel better to help them."

Another volunteer, Spencer Beck, senior Communications major, also feels good about helping at the center.

"I talk to them and support them," said Beck. "They need encouragement

and support." Clay's job is very extensive, but he is adamant about the perks. "Its worth it," said Clay. "Getting to be with all the children, opening doors of opportunity and encouraging them."

Clay said his administrative work often prevents him from participating in the afternoon activities at the center. He misses being able to coach for team sports and pick-up games.

"If I coached, I wouldn't be able to concentrate on everything else that goes on," said Clay. "It's like a family. You have to do whatever needs to be done to keep things running smoothly."

As well as volunteers, the Boy's and Girl's Club thrives on sponsors and donations. Part of their

fundraising activities include the Four-State Duck Race and an annual golf tournament. Volunteers and staff park cars at concerts, and with help from the kids, even pick up trash on the parking lots to raise money for the center.

"We do whatever we can to generate enough funds to keep the programs going," said Clay.

Clay's only regret is that he can't reach more children.

"I wish we could get to more kids," he said, "because there are children too far from us, and we have no way of getting them to our facility and into our programs." ♦



# "Write" State of Mind

By Rachel Deyo

Joplin's own distinguished author: Veda Boyd Jones



PHOTO BY GORDON TRICE

**V**eda Boyd Jones, local author, has some advice for those starting out in the field of writing:

"You don't have to know everything in the world, you just have to know where to find it," Jones said, sitting comfortably in the family room of her Joplin home. Even with her legs folded in front, her petite body takes up only half of her chair. However, her small body is all this lady needs to handle her big job.

Jones was born in Sulfer Springs, Arkansas. She traveled around the Midwest gathering degrees in history, including an MA at the University of Arkansas, and eventually a teaching certificate here at Missouri Southern.

"At one time I thought I would like

to teach history," she said. "It's such a limited field."

Although Jones changed her mind about teaching history, the education she received in that area has proved to be very helpful.

"I can't think of anything that is more important for a writer," Jones said. "You've got to know how to research."

Jones' story of success started in a

library. While living in Tulsa, Jones

signed her son up for "story hour" at a

local library. Jones

was not allowed to get a library card and

check-out materials because she had just

moved to the area. In most libraries you

must show proof of residency in order to

receive those privileges. However,

Jones was allowed to borrow from a selec-

tion of paperback material. After

choosing romance books over westerns,

she began to read and came to an abrupt

conclusion.

"I thought, 'I can do better than this,'" she said.

One evening after her family had gone

to bed and Jones was finishing one of those paperbacks, thoughts provoked her.

"I was thinking," she said, "'how does a person do this? How do you get two-hundred pages with a character learning something, developing a thread and carrying it all the way through. it seemed impossible.'"

Still, Jones decided to try her hand at writing romances, and at the request of her sons, she wrote some children's articles and sent them to publications such as Wee Wisdom and Highlights.

Jones' romance, *Callie's Mountain*, won an award for Best Contemporary Romance, nominated by readers of Heartsong Presents. In 1993, Jones won a Writer's Digest award for Best Article. It was the first time a children's article had ever won the prestigious award.

Jones said she has received tons of rejection letters.

"When you get rejection letters you just have to think, 'hmmm, it didn't fit them, or I didn't do my marketing well,'" she said. "I still get them, I save them so that I know where I've sent to and how long it took to get a reply."

Jones said that knowing the market is key to getting stories published.

"I've learned the hard way," she said. "I used to write a story and then try to find a market for it, now I know the market."

*Continued on page 8*

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# SABBATICAL?

By Dan Wiszkon

**A** sabbatical is a paid leave of absence awarded to faculty members whose proposals are deemed academically worthy by the College.

It starts when faculty members wishing to attain a sabbatical devise a proposal and submit it to Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs, for recommendation. He then forwards it to a committee consisting of six people from each of the five departments on campus, with the library making up the fifth unit. A person applying for a sabbatical may not serve on this committee.

After review, the committee will make its recommendations to Bitterbaum. He will then pass it on to College President Julio Leon and the Board of Regents for a final decision.

Once granted, the instructor can do a variety of things on their sabbatical leave to hone their skills.

They can work on projects such as writing a book, or researching a certain topic of interest.

Eligibility differs from college to college on how long a full-time faculty member must serve. An instructor must teach at Southern for a minimum of six years in order to request either a semester or a full-year sabbatical.

At least one sabbatical will be avail-

able each year at Southern. A fund established in Bitterbaum's line item budget will dictate exactly how many can be granted.

After completing a sabbatical, the faculty member must present a lecture on campus describing the work they performed during the break. They must also stay at Southern for a minimum of two years after returning.

Bitterbaum believes sabbaticals are a good way to enhance a professor's ability to teach and enrich the entire classroom experience. He said sabbaticals are not a new educational concept.

"The idea of a sabbatical goes back hundreds of years," Bitterbaum said. "I don't know of a four-year college or university that doesn't have them. Everybody benefits from sabbaticals: the faculty, the students, and the institution."

Dr. Virginia Laas, professor of history, is currently digging away at three projects on her sabbatical this semester. She is writing a chapter on Civil War marriages for a book, editing an autobiography on Emily Newell Blair, and revising a manuscript on late 19th century marriages.

"There's no way I can even think of publishing and writing without taking time away from teaching," Laas said. "Sabbaticals allow the uninterrupted time needed to get things done. As a teacher and scholar, you always have to

keep up in your field."

Laas said all of the knowledge and research she is doing for her projects will be incorporated into her history courses next semester. However, she mentioned the pressure is on to make the most of her time.

"There's a burden of responsibility to produce and accomplish something," she said. "But this is strengthening my teaching, and will help me look at it with a fresh eye. I'm grateful for this opportunity."

Researching the writing styles and attitudes of freshman composition was Dr. Dale Simpson's main objective during his leave in the spring of 1995. The professor of English was granted the sabbatical after applying two years in a row.

Because Southern has a history of not awarding many sabbaticals, Simpson said his acceptance by the committee raised his self-esteem. He stressed that they are a privilege and not an automatic right.

Simpson, like Laas, noted the huge obligation the selected few who have gone on sabbatical must face while on leave. He said some people often mistake a sabbatical for a four- or five-month vacation.

"You are responsible to the entire college," he said. "I'd find it hard to live with myself if I didn't try to accomplish what I set out to do." ♣

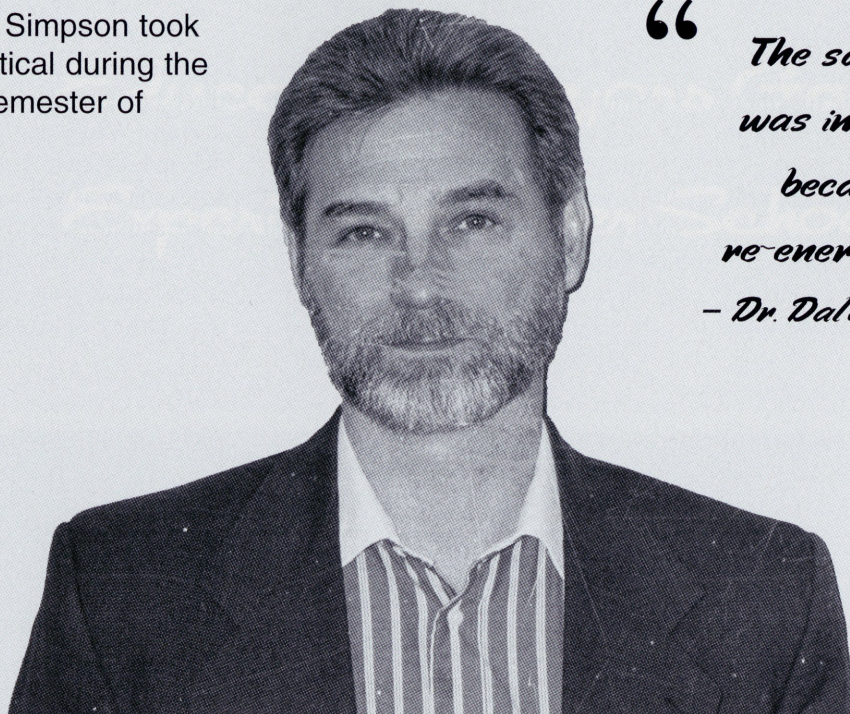
## Sabbaticals at Missouri Southern since 1991

Fall 1991 semester.....	Sam L. Claussen
Spring 1992 semester.....	G. Erin Ray
Academic year 1992-93.....	none awarded
Fall 1993 semester.....	Brian C. Babbitt
Spring 1995 semester.....	Dale Simpson
Fall 1995 semester.....	Beverly Block
Fall 1996 semester.....	Art Saltzman and Virginia Laas
Academic Year 1996-97.....	Elliott A. Denniston



Just mention the word sabbatical and see how quickly you get a Missouri Southern professor's undivided attention.

Dr. Dale Simpson took a Sabbatical during the spring semester of 1995.



“*The sabbatical was important because it re-energized me.*”  
— Dr. Dale Simpson —

### By Dan Wiszkon



One Southern professor fortunate enough to take a sabbatical was Dr. Dale Simpson of the English department.

He toiled on a host of projects during his leave in the spring semester of 1995. Simpson wrote an article on “which” clauses, clauses that many times contain errors in his freshmen composition courses.

Other projects for Simpson included a story on J.R. Tolkien, (Oxford professor and author of the book *Lord of the Rings*) and research on freshmen's' attitudes towards writing. He believes all of the studies he conducted on freshman composition has helped him become a better English teacher.

“The sabbatical has given me more self-assurance and confidence in the classroom,” Simpson said.

Southern has a history of not awarding many sabbaticals. It took Simpson two proposals over a two-year period to be approved by a special committee. He said his approval to take the paid leave of absence was a once-in-a-lifetime chance that he is very grateful to his colleagues.

Simpson pointed out that a sabbatical's rewards extend further than just classroom development. It gave him a much-needed break from the teaching routine.

“If you don't have time to do your own research and only teach, you will grow stale,” Simpson said. “The sabbatical was important because it re-energized me.”

According to Simpson, Southern should work on a way to award at least four sabbaticals per year so more faculty can broaden their minds through independent research.

“Some people outside of education misunderstand sabbaticals and think you are getting a four or five month vacation for doing nothing,” he said. “Without them, we run the risk of teaching only from old, yellowed notes with very little energy involved. I'd hate to see teaching reduced to just a job.”

Dr. Stephen Spector, head of the English department, agreed that the sabbatical Simpson took rekindled his interest in teaching literature and English.

“His research has helped him in the classroom,” Spector said, “so it's quite excellent for him and for us (the department), too.”

Simpson has been a member of Southern's faculty since his arrival in 1979. He received his masters and doctorate degrees in Anglo-Saxon Literature from the University of North Texas.

He claims the high point of his teaching career was winning the 1991 Outstanding Teacher of a Freshmen Class Award. The plaque proudly hangs on his office wall in Hearnest Hall.

“I try to put myself in the student's seat when I teach,” Simpson said. “I enjoy what I do and I want them to enjoy it, too.” ♦



Jones also believes that writers need to know about the publication they are wanting to get into. She said it is very important to know the tone of the magazine and how long they want the story.

"It's like putting a puzzle together" Jones said. "All the pieces have to fit."

Jones enjoys writing books as well as magazine articles.

"I couldn't write books and not have the short successes of magazine writing," she said. "It's important for

me to be able to say that at least once a month I went to the mailbox and got an acceptance letter."

Even a well-published author like Jones gets discouraged sometimes.

"Every time I start a new one [book or article] I wonder if I can do it again," she said.

Jones is currently working on a continuation of a series of books with historical perspectives. The main characters and their goals have already been established in previous books by various authors. Jones must now take the characters further along on their adventures.

Jones' education in history and

research have made it possible for her to write these books, a combination of fiction and nonfiction.

"I've had to research the year 1808, how big Cincinnati was, what kind of bricks were used in building," she said. "There are so many details."

Along with her writing, Jones juggles her roles as a wife and mother of three boys. Her daily life is never boring. With a son in middle school, one in high school, and one in college, she tries to keep up with all of their activities.

"Life is a balancing act to say what is important," she said. "I love writing, but my family has to be first." ♦

# *Who's In CAB and What Do They Do?*

**President: Cara Lunn**  
**Vice President: Spencer Beck**  
**Secretary: Erica Doenning**  
**Historian: Scott Meeker**

## **Committee Chair Persons**

Michelle Stonis (concerts)	Andrea Emanuel (Cultural Events)
Spencer Beck (Dances)	Julie Wiecken (Lectures)
Scott Meeker (Movies)	Jason Foster (Special Events)
Andrea Emanuel (Tour and Travel)	Janet Ferron (co-chair)

## **Upcoming events**

April 8 . . . . . Jack Levin (Overkill: Serial Murder Exposed) Lecturer  
April 11 . . . . . Country Western Dance  
April 28 - May 2. . . . . Spring Fling  
(Talent Show, Movie Night, Virtual Reality, Dance and Picnic)  
Plus Lion Palooza, Easter Give Aways, St. Louis Zoo Trip, and more.



# Computer Love

By Andre Smith

Whether it is the Lab, the Lobby, or any of a large number of other computer rooms, chat lines on the internet have become one of the most widely used means of communication in the world.

What is so cool about talking to some stranger by typing messages?

Theresa Toole, freshman undecided major, said she has made several friends on the internet.

"There were times when I needed someone to listen to my problems," Toole said. "It's much easier to talk to someone you don't know and can't see."

Toole admits to spending up to 24 hours a week talking in chat rooms.

Her roommate, elementary education major Rachael Carr, is also a frequent chat room user.

"Back in November, I would spend up to ten hours a day on chat lines," said Carr. "I've cut down to about ten hours a week."

## A Chat Line Between Love and Hate

An 18-year-old girl has just broken up with her boyfriend of six months. She goes on-line and enters a chat room. After chatting for a few minutes, she finds herself flirting with a 20-year-old male. She asks him where he's from and he tells her.

What a coincidence. He lives 45 minutes away. They chat a couple more times, talk on the phone, and decide they want to meet.

Now use your imagination. There are several things that can result from this visit. Depending on their life experiences, they may have developed different ideas than the other person.

Perhaps they hit it off and lived happily ever after. Maybe an unfortunate event occurred.

Let's talk about the trust factor.

How much would you trust a person you have never seen, but have talked to or chatted with on a computer?

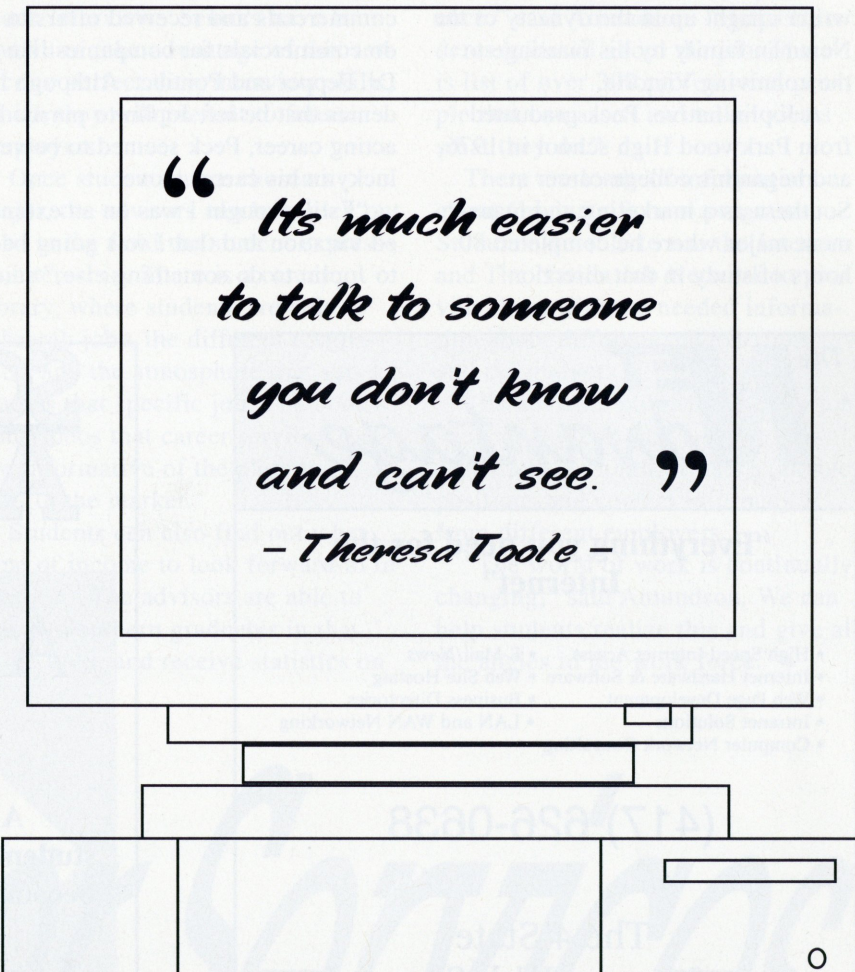
Anyone can be sweet and attractive

relationships, both of which ended quickly after the two met. She attributed the fast end to the difference in their attitudes when they met.

"You notice things about the other person that you can't see over the phone or computer," said Carr.

Toole agreed with her.

"You don't get to see them unless



**“  
Its much easier  
to talk to someone  
you don't know  
and can't see. ”  
- Theresa Toole -**

on a computer screen. They have time to think of something good to say.

They make themselves sound like little Miss or Mr. innocent at first, but when you meet them it may be a different story.

Carr has had two "computer love"

they send you a picture," Toole said. "Words on a screen are different than words in person."

Although you can send personal messages, be very careful in deciding if the internet is the right place to go looking for love. ♣



## FROM NUMBERS TO CAMERAS

By Rachel Deyo



ou won't catch J. Eddie Peck crunching numbers

behind a desk for a while. Once a marketing major here at Missouri Southern, Peck now spends his time in front of a camera kissing Heather Tom, Victoria on daytime's *The Young and the Restless*.

Peck plays Cole, a free-lance writer caught up in the dynasty of the Newman family by his marriage to the conniving Victoria.

A Joplin native, Peck graduated from Parkwood High school in 1976, and began his college career at Southern as a marketing and management major where he completed 80 hours of study in that direction.

Peck traveled to Los Angeles in 1980 because he wanted to 'have some fun before settling down.' According to an old issue of *In Joplin Magazine*, Peck said he didn't like the idea of becoming a business representative in a small town and felt somewhat trapped in the mid-west.

During his first week in Los Angeles, Peck landed two national commercials and received offers to do commercials for companies like Dr. Pepper and Pontiac. Although he denies that he left Joplin to pursue an acting career, Peck seemed to be very lucky in his career move.

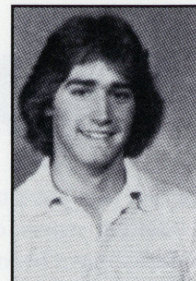
"I still thought I was on an extended vacation and that I was going back to Joplin to do something else," said

Peck.

Peck stayed in Los Angeles to pursue modeling and later was offered parts on two daytime soaps: *Days of Our Lives* and *The Young and the Restless*.

You may have also seen Peck in episodes of *Cheers*, *Night Rider*, and *Dallas*, just to name a few. Oh yes, he had the leading role in *Lambda: The Movie*.

According to *The Chart*, Peck is enjoying his acting career, but he is still sentimental about his roots back home in Missouri. ♣



J. Eddie Peck

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# Business Becomes Family Empire

By Rachel Deyo

"I always thought it would be terrible to go to work every-day and not like your job," said Wayne Woodard, class of 1952.

Woodard came to Joplin Junior College on a basketball scholarship. He thought he would like to be a teacher or a coach, but something very different was in his future.

"I got a part-time job in a funeral home and decided that's what I wanted to do," said Woodard.

After graduating from Joplin Junior College, Woodard went to the Kansas City School Of Mortuary Science where he graduated in 1954, prior to serving in the Army during the Korean Conflict.

Upon his return to his hometown of Pineville, Missouri, Woodard discovered that both local funeral homes were for sale. When Woodard

was \$14,000 short of becoming the owner of the pair, a personal friend, (who happened to be the Osage County Sheriff at the time) offered to lend Woodard the money. He saw it as a good investment, and he had no idea how right he was.

Woodard is currently president of a corporation of funeral homes. He entered a merger that formed the corporation five years ago when he discovered he had colon cancer. Now at age 64, doctors have been unable to detect any form of cancer in his body.

Woodard's children continued in their father's footsteps.

"I never pushed them, said Woodard. "They made the choices themselves, but Bruce, he never wanted to do anything else."

Bruce Woodard heads 24 funeral homes in Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Arkansas and Missouri.

One of Woodard's daughters, Kim heads a prearranged funeral organization in Missouri, Arkansas and Nebraska.

Another daughter, Valenda Moore, and her husband Shane, also own funeral homes.

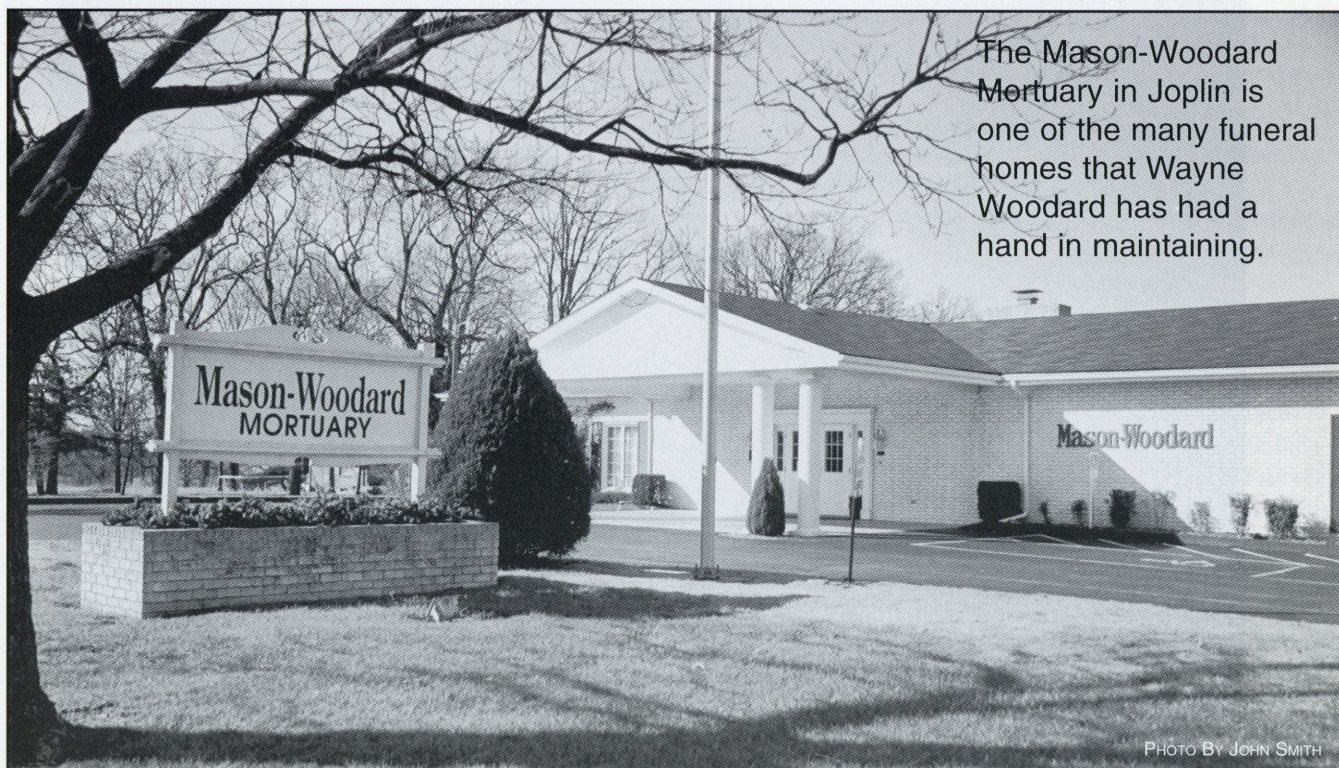
In 1992, Woodard was named to the Greater Ozarks Business Hall of Fame and in the Oxford's Who's Who, the Elite Registry of Extraordinary Professionals.

Woodard had a very simple reason for why he became a funeral director.

"People are very grateful for the help of funeral directors," said Woodard. "To me, that appreciation is worth more than any amount of money." ♣



Wayne Woodard



The Mason-Woodard Mortuary in Joplin is one of the many funeral homes that Wayne Woodard has had a hand in maintaining.

PHOTO BY JOHN SMITH



# Outstanding Alumni since 1971

1971.	.Dennis Weaver
1972.	Vernon Lawson
1973.	Dr. Arrell Gibson
1974.	.Robert Higgins
1975.	Dr. and Mrs. James Stephens
1976.	Dr. Kenneth Bowman
1978.	.Jack Dawson
1979.	.Robert Moyer
1980.	Dr. Edwin Strong, Jr.
1981.	.Dr. Ronald Lankford
1983.	.Robert G. Sheppard, M.D.
1984.	.Bill Grigsby
1985.	Dr. Larry J. Moore
1986.	Dr. Mark Claussen
1987.	.Glen C. Barnett Jerry W. Cooper Dan H. Fieker, D.O. Chuck Surface Eugene E. Langevin, D.O.
1988.	.Marion A. Ellis Robert M. Headlee Dr. Mary Jane Lang Grundler
1989.	.Michael L Storm
1990.	Dr. Cynthia Carter Haddock Dr. Floyd E. Belk
1991.	.Lt. Col. Barbara J. Bevins
1992.	.L. Howard Hartley, M.D.
1993.	.Wayne Woodard
1994.	.Richard Hood Dr. Samuel Miller
1995.	Jesse A. Reed Shelly L. Hall, Ph.D., M.D.
1996.	Janet Lynn Kavandi, Ph.D. Charles L. Butler, Ph.D.



# Reach For The Stars

By Rachel Deyo



Janet Kavandi

**T**his 1980 magna cum laude graduate set her goals extremely high. As of last May, Janet L. Kavandi officially became one of NASA's newest

Astronauts.

While at Missouri Southern, Kavandi studied chemistry and took a course in astronomy because she thought it would be interesting. Little did she know that she would find herself in a career where she might actually touch the stars.

At the age of eight, Kavandi lost her parents and began living with her aunt and uncle, Mary and Edward England, in Carthage. She later attended Carthage High School.

"She was always very good at math," said Mary England. "She was on the math team in high school."

Kavandi received her chemistry degree at Southern, a master's degree at the University of Missouri-Rolla and a doctorate in analytical chemistry from the University of Washington.

After attending Southern, Kavandi worked for Eagle Picher in Joplin as a battery development engineer. She later worked at Boeing Defense and Space Group in Seattle as the principal engineer for energy storage.

At Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, Kavandi went through a year of training and evaluation. From there, she was given technical assignments to prepare her for Shuttle Flight crew assignments.

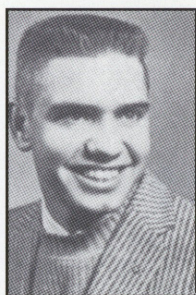
Kavandi was one of 2,962 applicants for NASA's space program.

Kavandi's aunt said that she has been very busy and doesn't have a lot of time to 'miss home'.

"She calls every once in a while," said England. "She can't tell us exactly what she is working on because they [NASA] won't allow her to discuss very much."

England said she believes Kavandi will be working with Space Station programs.

Kavandi lives in Houston Texas with her two children and her husband, John, an airline pilot for United Express. ♣



Marion Ellis

## A Pulitzer Prize Winning Journalist

By Rachel Deyo

**M**arion Ellis believes his experience on *The Chart* helped get him where he is today. Where is Marion Ellis? A Pulitzer prize-winning journalist, he is part owner of Covington, Ellis and Associates in Charlotte, North Carolina where he writes biographies of companies and individuals.

Ellis collaborated in writing a book called The Story of Nations Bank. The book describes the largest and most extensive bank merger in the United States.

Ellis was a reporter for the *Charlotte Observer* for 20 years. In 1981, he was a member of the investigative team that produced a series of articles about brown lung disease, for which the *Observer* was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service.

In 1986, Ellis was regional manager of Business Wire in Charlotte. Business Wire electronically distributes press releases for their clients.

He has also owned and sold two regional magazines: *Southeast Magazine* and *Southeast Shopper*.

While attending Joplin Junior College, Ellis was editor of *The Chart* and a member of Student Senate. He also worked 48 hours a week at the *Joplin Globe*.

"The Chart taught me the hands-on experience that I needed to succeed as opposed to the work theory," said Ellis.

Ellis received his bachelors degree in 1961, and then completed a semester of graduate study at UMC. He then joined the Marine Corps prior to his work on the *Observer*.

Ellis is currently working on a biography about an undisclosed individual (but the word billionaire was used). Along with his business associate, he is also working on a book about trial lawyers. They have been flying all over the United States for their research, interviewing judges and gathering material.

"I don't have time to worry if I am happy," said Ellis. "But I know that it [his work] is fulfilling." ♣



# What Do You Want To Be When You

# GROW UP?

By Rachel Deyo

**A**s children we are often asked that thought-provoking question:

'What do you want to be when you grow up?'

Children's vivid, imaginative, enlightened responses sometimes surprise interrogating adults when they answer quite seriously: "I'm going to be either a computer programmer...or a storm chaser."

Although our childhood dreams can be pretty amazing, our environment has a great deal of influence on what we will become.

Betty Winder, a non-traditional Spanish major knew what she wanted to be in 1947, her freshman year of high school.

"I had a great teacher, and I knew I wanted to be like her," said Winder.

Winder went straight into college but took a few years off to raise and teach her five children.

"I believe all mothers are teachers to their children," she said.

She returned to Southern and received a degree in secondary education, and taught for almost 16 years. After retiring at age 62, Winder said she had an incredible urge to learn Spanish.

She is now back at Southern studying once again and doing what she believes God wants her to do. Winder says it is possible that she may become a missionary.

Wherever Winder is led to go, it is assured that the role of a teacher will never leave her, thanks to Mrs. Peters. ♣

“*I want to get a  
job I'll be happy  
with instead of  
getting stuck in  
something I won't  
enjoy.*”

— Amanda Bilke —

“*I wanted to  
be a great  
teacher, just  
like Mrs.  
Peters.*”

— Betty Winder —



# Prepare For Departure At

By Christy Yun

**P**roviding employment opportunities for all students is the goal of Missouri Southern's career services department.

Much of the work that is done in career services is geared toward seniors, but they do not discourage the use of the services by underclassmen.

"Many of the seniors need help in preparing after graduation. We help them realize and give suggestions to what they need to do," said Kristy Amundson, a career services coordinator.

Seniors have an opportunity to turn in a resume that is held by the department. They then refer the resume when employers are looking to hire. The advisors will also help students put a resume together. They have examples of effective resumes, cover letters, and thank you letters which are essential in the

hunt for a job. "Career services refers 4,500 plus resumes to employers who are interested in hiring MSSC graduates," says Amundson.

If a student needs to improve their interviewing skills, they can set up a mock interview. Seniors have been known to take advantage of this service to perfect their interview skills, which they will present to future employers.

Once students have chosen a major, the advisors can help pick out jobs in the field the student expresses interest in. There is a career library, where students are able to research jobs, the different companies, and the atmosphere that surrounds that specific job. The books and videos that career services carry are informative of the plethora of jobs in the market.

Students can also find out what type of income to look forward to in that job. The advisors are able to talk to Southern graduates in that same field, and receive statistics on

that job. As a result of speaking with the graduate students, advisors are able to set up interviews in which students can speak with professionals in their field of study.

"This creates hands on experience," said Amundson. "Helps students learn all about the job. There is list of over 300 professional people that can assist and tell students what they do."

There are loads of information about Graduate School programs. Students are able to use the Internet and The Nation Job Network to provide them with the needed information about different schools, jobs, and the market.

The advisors publish a weekly job vacancy bulletin that usually lists 1,000 jobs a month. It lists available positions and contact information from different employers.

"The world of work is continually changing," said Amundson. We can help students realize this and give all the angles in the work force." ♦

# Career Services



# Total Equality?

By Joetta Wigger

It's a man's world. How many times has that phrase been used to illustrate how hard it is for a woman to break through the glass ceiling and get ahead in the job market? These words used to have much more of a harsh meaning to them when women first started to work outside of the home, but they still have some sting left in them. Just how far have women really come?

In the recent movie, "The Associate", Whoopi Goldberg plays a consultant in a big firm. She and her partner, a white male, win a huge account. She spent numerous hours putting the proposal together while her partner did nothing except skim over the paperwork. He was praised

communications professor at Missouri Southern, said it happens more often than people think.

"When I have done a thesis in the past, men would tell me that in order for my thesis to get any recognition, I would need to put their names on it," she said. "Many of my younger women colleagues would publish their research with the names of these men on the front because they were afraid that their thesis would not get the recognition otherwise."

This could be one reason why women are not in the key positions that they deserve. Published in the October 1996 issue of *World Trade*, the Gallup poll, *Gender and Society: Status and Stereotypes*, the majority of people in 22 countries from

ing outside of the home, women made 59 cents to every dollar made by a man for the same job. Recently, it was 65 cents on the dollar, but has increased to 70 cents on the dollar.

Still, it is not enough.

"Men are promoted earlier and get much more attention and credit," said Yocum. "One reason for this is that women not only take care of the task, they deal with the feelings of colleges and deal with the social and emotional functions. Men pay attention to just the task. What the women do is just as important, but they are less likely to get credit for it. The job would not get done if people did not get along."

In the October 1996 issue of the *American Journal of Economics and Sociology*, two earning models for men and women of the National Longitudinal Survey of Labor Market Experience of Youth estimated that women have to acquire more work experience and increase schooling in order to narrow the wage gap. The first model concluded that a woman would need to increase her education over 20%

and weeks worked over 100% to bring her to the same level as that of a white male. The second model showed that men with more education still have higher experience-earning profiles than more educated women. This research proved that a woman increasing her education and level of work is not adequate to become equal. These models conclude that affirmative action policies need to be continued in order for economic progress to take place and overcome discrimination. Will we ever reach total equality? "Maybe in 100 years," said Yocum. ♦

**"Maybe In 100 Years"**  
**Dr. Karolyn Yocum**

for her work and received the promotion to vice president of the firm. She was later told she would never receive the position of V.P. because she did not fit the image. Goldberg's character quits the firm and starts her own. The only problem is that she cannot get into the business because she is female. To get ahead, she creates Robert Cutty, a middle-aged white male. With her knowledge and experience and the image of Robert Cutty, business is suddenly booming. Could this possibly be a common occurrence?

Dr. Karolyn Yocum, gender com-

August through November 1995 prefer men over women as bosses. This is the case at Missouri Southern. There are no women deans or vice presidents.

"We have more women students than men," said Yocum. "These women need to see women in key positions to use as role models and give them hope. This would tell them that higher positions for women are possible. There is definitely a gender issue on campus."

Women have made some progress in the job market. In the 1970's when more and more women started work-



# Education Majors Gain Experience After School.

By Kate Walters

**T**he Joplin Family Y's after school program gives several Missouri Southern education majors the chance to experience their prospective field and earn money at the same time.

The Y offers child care from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. for parents who cannot get their children directly after school. The children are split into small groups and are cared for by employers of the program. Several of these employees are education majors.

Becky Leach, senior elementary education major, works for the program at Columbia elementary school. She feels that it is a good opportunity for education majors because she gets to work with children of all ages and find out if it is a career she wants to pursue.

"It has a lot of benefits," Leach said. "Not only do I get to work with kids, but it has perfect hours for me."

Stephanie Hamilton, sophomore education major, says she has gained knowledge that will be very useful to her in the future.

"I've learned how to deal with certain

situations, discipline problems, as well as how to deal with certain types of kids," she said.

Hamilton thought that by becoming a teacher, she would be able to stick to a

group of children might not work with another."

To be eligible to work for this program, students are required to have some training. They either have to be enrolled in 12 hours of college credit or be taking 12 hours of continuing education classes. Within 30 days of being hired, the applicant must have taken classes in CPR, first aid, and take a child abuse and neglect seminar.

Leach said that she has already used some of this training.

"One of the hardest things that happens is when you have a child who is abused or neglected and you have to inform your superiors," she said.

Leach said this job has helped her make a firm decision that education is what she wants to do with her life. She thinks it is important for a teacher to really love his or her job, and have all the training possible.

"I feel elementary education is important because this is where children will receive their foundation," Leach said. "If they receive a good foundation, they will be able to build on that forever." ♦

“  
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—Becky Leach—

set schedule. After a little experience, she has found otherwise.

"You can't always do the same things," she said. "What works with one



# FANDEMONIUM

By Andre Smith

It's fourth and goal on our one yard line. We are leading 35-30, and the other team has to score.

Better yet, we have to stop them. A hush comes over the crowd. A hush?

Sometimes I have to remind myself that I'm in college.

When I first came to Missouri Southern I thought, "yes, this is cool". I pictured myself walking onto the turf to hear 6,000 screaming fans cheering on our football team. I would be able to go to basketball games and yell uncontrollably and not get a silly look from someone around me. The crowd would "whoosh" along with the band as a free throw hit the bottom of the net. The student body section would be full of die hard Lions fans who back their team in good times and bad times. Large signs would appear behind them (and I mean signs that would let the visiting team know that we had one more player than they did).

So what is wrong with this picture? Nothing, one would think.

But something must be wrong with it, because these things do not happen enough on our campus. Some of them do not happen at all.

Before I go on, allow me to present these questions:

When was the last time your behind left the bleachers to raise your arms, symbolizing the big Aaron Brooks three pointer?

Have you ever heard more than 30

percent of Lions fans scream "Missouri Southern, go Lions go" with the cheerleaders during the "hey" song?

Do you ever see people giving fives all over the place after Matt Olson throws down a thunderous dunk, Brandon Eggleston hits a home run, Wallace Clay breaks a long run for a touchdown, or Stephanie Gockley puts down a kill on the volleyball court?

The bottom line is: we need more student fan support.

Marketing and promotion of Missouri Southern sports is handled by the Joplin Sports Network. Ron Fauss, the director of the Joplin Sports Network, said attendance for sporting events has been phenomenal.

"This past football season we averaged about one thousand more people than usual," he said, "and basketball attendance was high for the kind of season we had."

I understand that it is hard to sit in the bleachers at Robert E. Young gymnasium, but did you get out and vote "yes" for the major events center.

Just because the bleachers are hard does not mean that we have to be quiet. If there were a noise-o-meter in the student body section of any Southern sporting event, the reading would probably equal that of a popcorn popper.

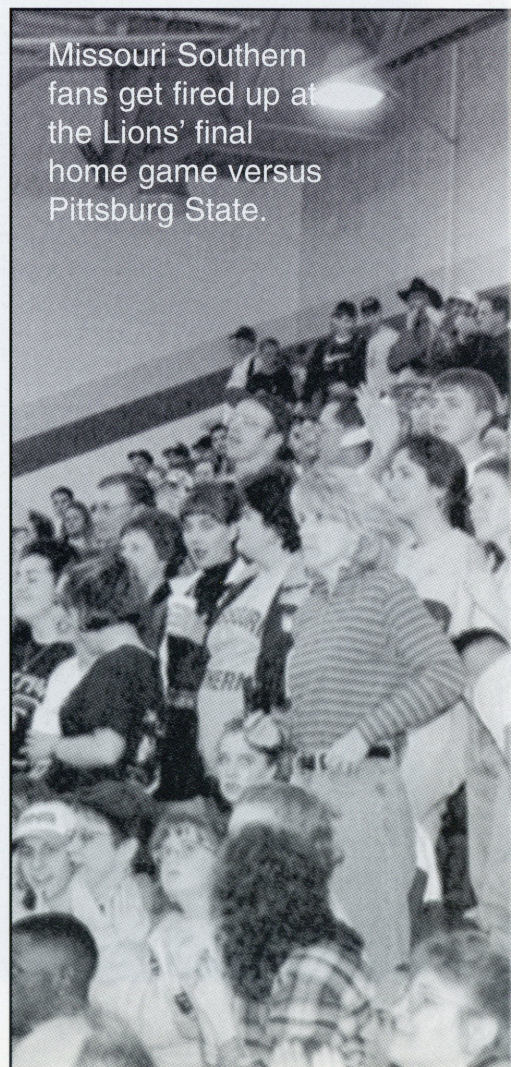
Excitement is contagious. Noise is contagious. If a couple of fans stand up and cheer, others will not be afraid to join. Let's create an atmosphere at our sporting events that will give

every Southern opponent chills when they cross the city lines of Joplin.

And when one of our teams brings home an MIAA or National Championship, cheers will ring louder than ever before, and the celebration will begin.

That is what fandemonium is all about. ♣

Missouri Southern fans get fired up at the Lions' final home game versus Pittsburg State.





Ron Fauss is not only the director of the Joplin Sports Network, but is also the voice of the Lions.



PHOTO BY JOHN SMITH

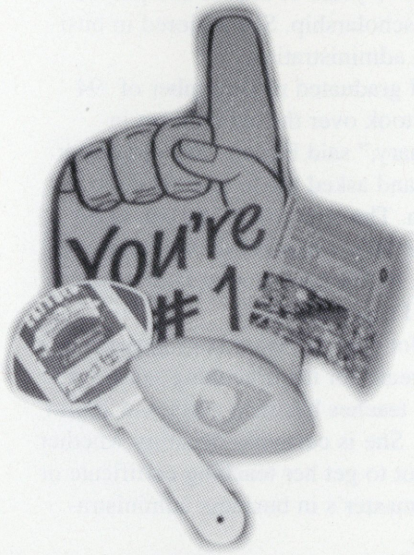


PHOTO BY JOHN SMITH



# Fault or Fiction

By Joetta Wigger

Coach Fisher played at Missouri Southern for two years



PHOTO BY JOHN SMITH

Tennis is not just a game to Jill Fisher, it's a job. Fisher, third-year head women's tennis coach at Southern, has been involved in sports for most of her life.

"I was always interested in sports because I come from an athletic family," said Fisher. "I started playing tennis when I was ten, and then went on to play competitively when I was 12."

Fisher played for Joplin High School, helping them win the conference tournament both her junior and senior years. She also went on to the state playoffs those years. After graduating from high school, she was recruited to Southwest Missouri State University where she played for two years on partial scholarship.

After she married David Fisher, former Southern baseball player and current infielder for the Philadelphia Phillies, she came to Southern for her

last two years of school and played on full scholarship. She majored in business administration.

"I graduated in December of '94 and took over the tennis team in January," said Fisher. "My old coach left and asked me to take over the team. The opportunity for me to do something I liked to do was there, so I took it. My background is in tennis, and I enjoy it here."

Not only is Fisher busy preparing the team for the upcoming season, she also teaches business classes at Joplin R-8. She is currently debating whether or not to get her teaching certificate or her master's in business administration.

"The future really depends on David's career," said Fisher. "Watching baseball is a lot of what I do. This past year, starting in May and ending in August, I went to 90 baseball games. Most of his games were in Pennsylvania, so I could go to almost

all of them, especially if they were double A games. I could follow the bus in my car. If they were triple A games, the team flew and I wasn't able to go."

The Fishers have been married for five years and have a four year old son named Austin.

"I had Austin between semesters of my junior year," said Fisher. "I had him in January and played tennis that

Jill Fisher frequently practices with her players.



PHOTO BY COURTNEY HULSEY



spring. That is why I can't accept excuses for not finishing school. I hear women say that they are going to have a baby and won't be back for the next semester, so I tell them my story. If you quit even a semester, it is hard to come back. I am having a hard enough time to try to come back to get my Master's. You need to stay in school and finish."

An attitude like that is something Fisher wants to see in her players.

"One of the most important things I look for in a player is her attitude," said Fisher. "Of course a player has to have a certain level of talent before I even look at her, but a good attitude will finish it off. They will want to play hard and do as well as they can. They won't give up."

One thing Fisher wants her players to work on is consistency. She is pleased with how well they play together on doubles teams. Heather Andrews, a sophomore from Bartlesville, OK., is her strongest player.

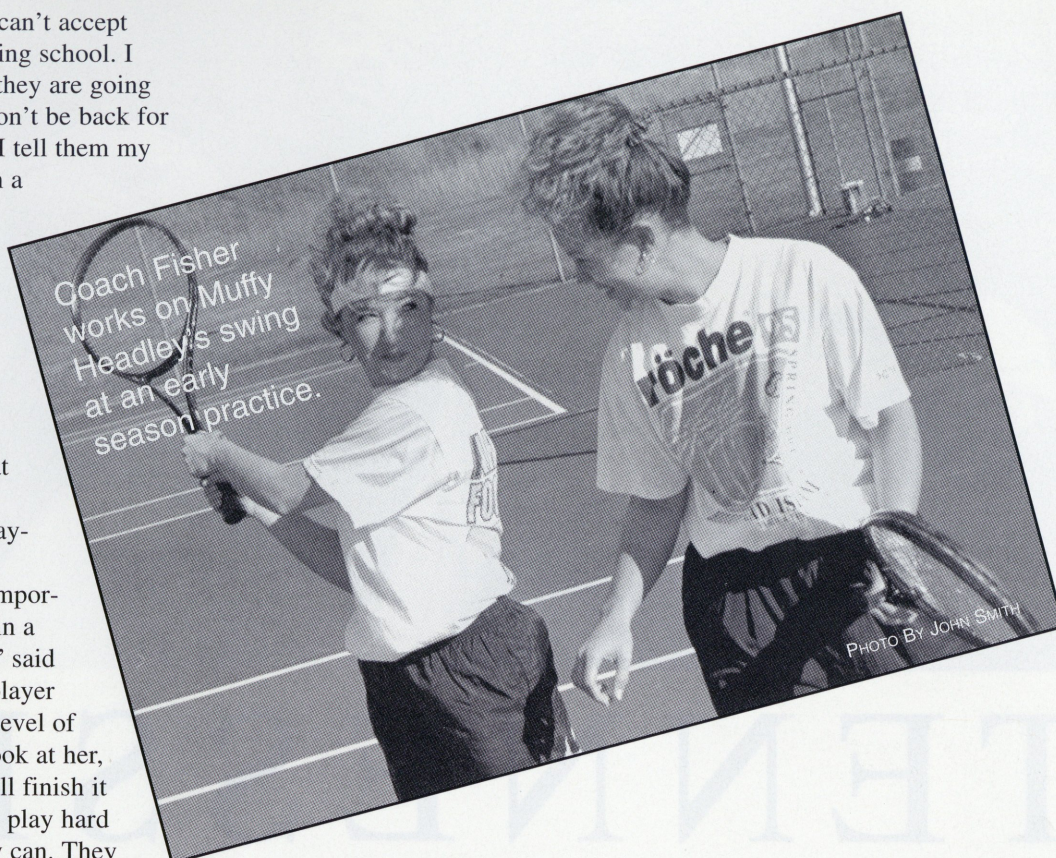
"We will hopefully improve our 8-7 record from last year," said Fisher. "Heather was injured last season and missed five conference games. That really hurt us. I think we would have won more if Heather was healthy."

Eric Svensson, a student at Southern, works with the girls for no pay.

"Eric is good enough to play on a college level, but we don't have a men's team here. He has helped us out a lot," said Fisher.

Northwest Missouri State University has won the MIAA title six out of the last seven years and, according to Fisher, and is one of the many tough teams in the MIAA. With the help of Svensson, Fisher plans to have a winning team next season.

"If we improve on consistency and avoid injuries, we should do well," Fisher said. ♣



***" I was always  
interested in sports  
because I came  
from an athletic  
family. "***

***Jill Fisher***



Carlos Newberry (Left) and Mario Phillips (Right) grew up in the same neighborhood and now battle MIAA foes together.

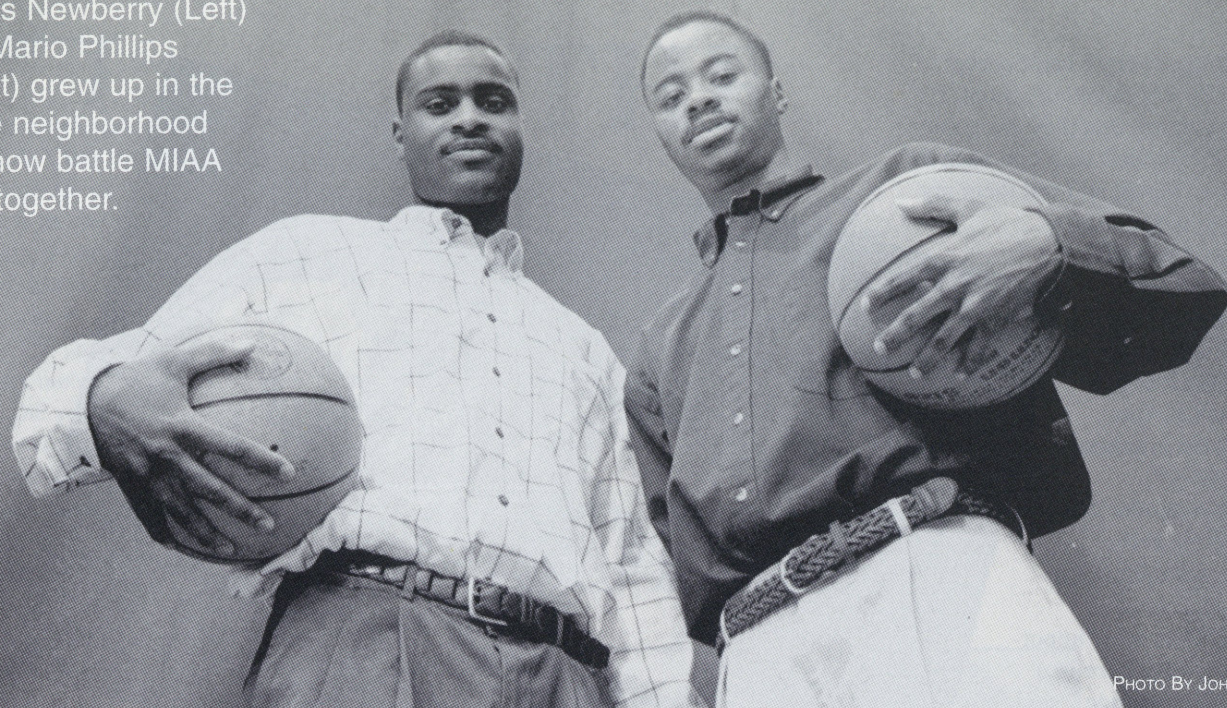


PHOTO BY JOHN SMITH

# TENNESSEE

## Phillips Claims Basketball as His First Love

By Joetta Wigger

**H**e has played football, volleyball, soccer, and ran track, but basketball is still his first love.

"I started playing in pick-up games when I was about seven," said Mario Phillips, Missouri Southern's point guard and a sophomore kinesiology major. "I began playing organized ball when I was 11 at a community center, and then went on and played through junior high and high school."

Born in Memphis, Tenn., Phillips won honors all through high school before he was recruited to Southern.

"I was voted Freshman of the Year in my conference," said Phillips, "and also was voted Player's Choice, Coach's Choice, and MVP my senior year in my conference."

Phillips suffered from a slight concussion and a busted chin his senior year, but despite the injury, his team had an overall record of 26-4 before losing in the regionals. His college

team is not faring as well, and Phillips admits that it has been a tough season.

"I think we got too relaxed with our early success," he said. "We have had a lot of bad calls that have cost us close games, but the team still gets along despite the losses."

One might think that coming from Memphis to Joplin would be quite a culture shock, but Phillips says that it wasn't that dramatic.

"I played on AAU teams during the summer when I was in high school," he said, "so I was used to traveling to different types of communities all over the United States."

Phillips still works on his basketball skills during the summers off from college. Working out at the spa keeps him in shape while going back to the community center, where he first started playing ball, helps him sharpen his game. Playing in the pick-up games also supplies him with good competition.

"A lot of NBA players are from Memphis, so they come back and play

with us," Phillips said. "There are also guys there who have all of the talent in the world and show up the NBA players, but they don't want to seriously work at the game."

Keeping his game on track is something Phillips learned from his parents.

"From their experience, they want me to graduate from college and do better for myself," said Phillips. "I know players that were so good in high school and could have had successful basketball careers, but they chose the wrong paths. Basketball was their life, but they didn't get the grades."

A college degree is in the future for Phillips, but basketball is one of the top priorities in his life right now.

"I'm going to try to further my basketball career," said Phillips. "I look to join a minor league, but playing in the NBA is my dream. No matter what, I'll always be around sports. If I don't play, I'll coach. There's nothing like being on a basketball court in college." ♦



# Newberry Took Mother's Advice

By Andre Smith

If it was not for his mother, Missouri Southern forward Carlos Newberry would not be where he is today.

As a sixth grader, Newberry had no interest in basketball. In fact, he said he hated everything about the sport.

"In grade school I was a football man," he said. "There was too much running involved in basketball and you didn't get to wear pads. It was a girl sport to me."

Similar to most forwards and centers, Newberry was always tall for his age. His mother, a former basketball player, made several attempts to boost his interest in the game.

"My mother told me to go play for the boys club to see how I'd like it," said Newberry. "But I didn't like it too much."

Newberry's love for basketball increased with age. He did not play much on his seventh grade team, but averaged 20 points a game as an eighth grader. Although he had great success, Newberry had doubts about how he would play in high school.

"I was such a late bloomer," he said. "I scored a lot in eighth grade, but I didn't really know what I was doing."

Newberry was a three year starter at White Station High School in Memphis, Tenn. As a senior he averaged 13 points, 7 rebounds a game, and shot 59 percent from the field.

"We were second in the state my senior year," he said. "We only lost by a couple of points, so that really hurt."

Newberry grew up in the same neighborhood as teammate Mario Phillips, but said they did not play against each other in high school.

He has played against Phillips, however.

"I played against Mario in a Pee-Wee league," he said. "He was really popular with everyone and his team beat us twice. My team beat his in the championship though."

Newberry said that when looking back on things, he is happy that he stuck with basketball.

"Once I got it all together in high school, I earned myself a scholarship," he said. "It would have been hard for my parents to pay for college otherwise."

The neighborhood Newberry grew up in was not the best of surroundings.

"It was violent," said Newberry. "There were drugs, car jackings, and certain neighborhoods claimed their territory."

Fortunately, Newberry was able to avoid some of the trials and tribulations faced by inner city teenagers because of his upbringing.

"My parents are very strong and my mother is religious," he said. "I didn't get involved in trouble. If I did mess up, I was always punished."

Now that he is at Southern, Newberry fits right in. He moved into the starting line-up early in the season, and averaged 11.8 points per game.

Although he is unsure of a major, he is sure of one thing-

"I want to cut down some nets before I leave here," he said. "Whether it is a conference championship or a national championship, I want to be able to look back and be able to say that we had a great team." ♣

Mario Phillips brings excitement to the crowd during a home game against The University of Missouri-Rolla

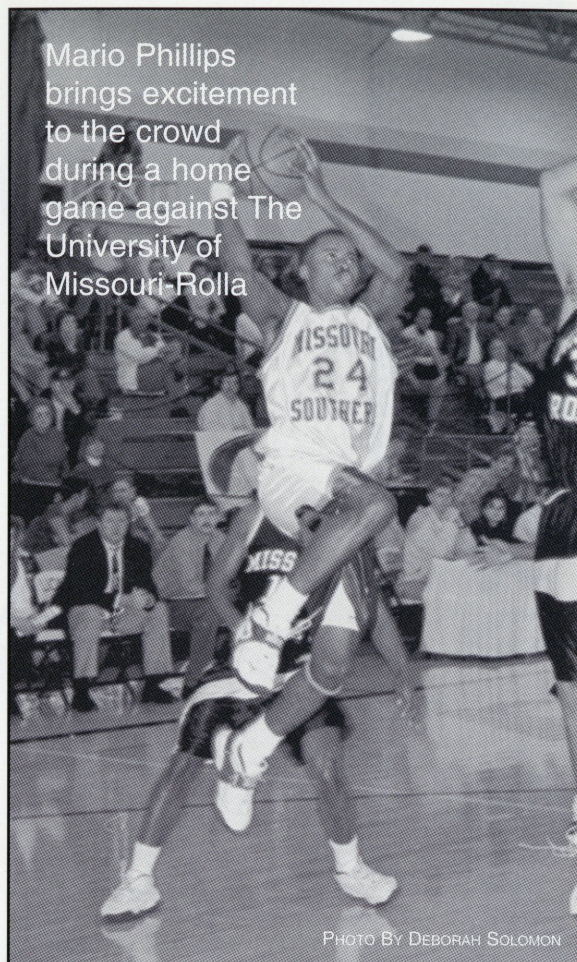


PHOTO BY DEBORAH SOLOMON

Carlos Newberry was 19th in the MIAA in scoring, averaging 11.8 points per game.

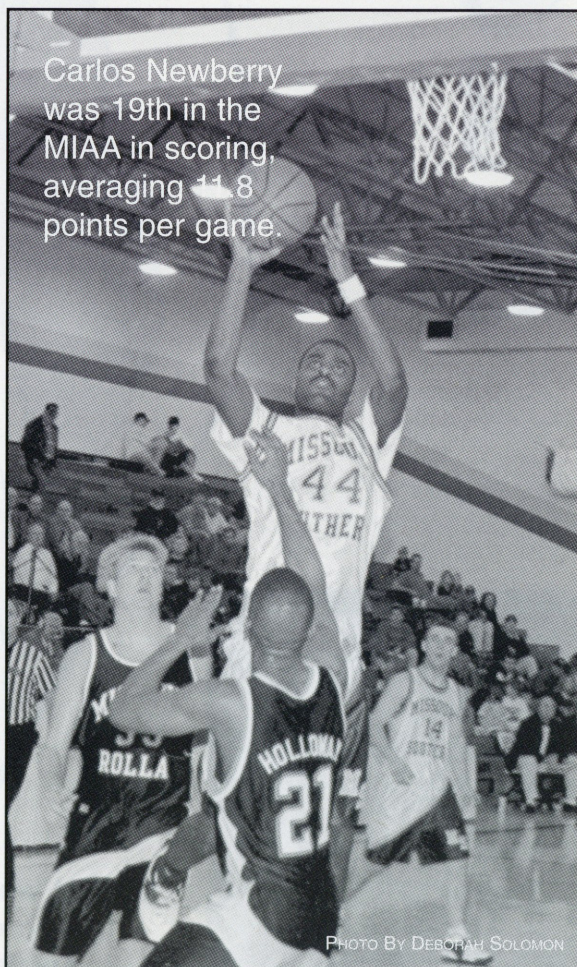
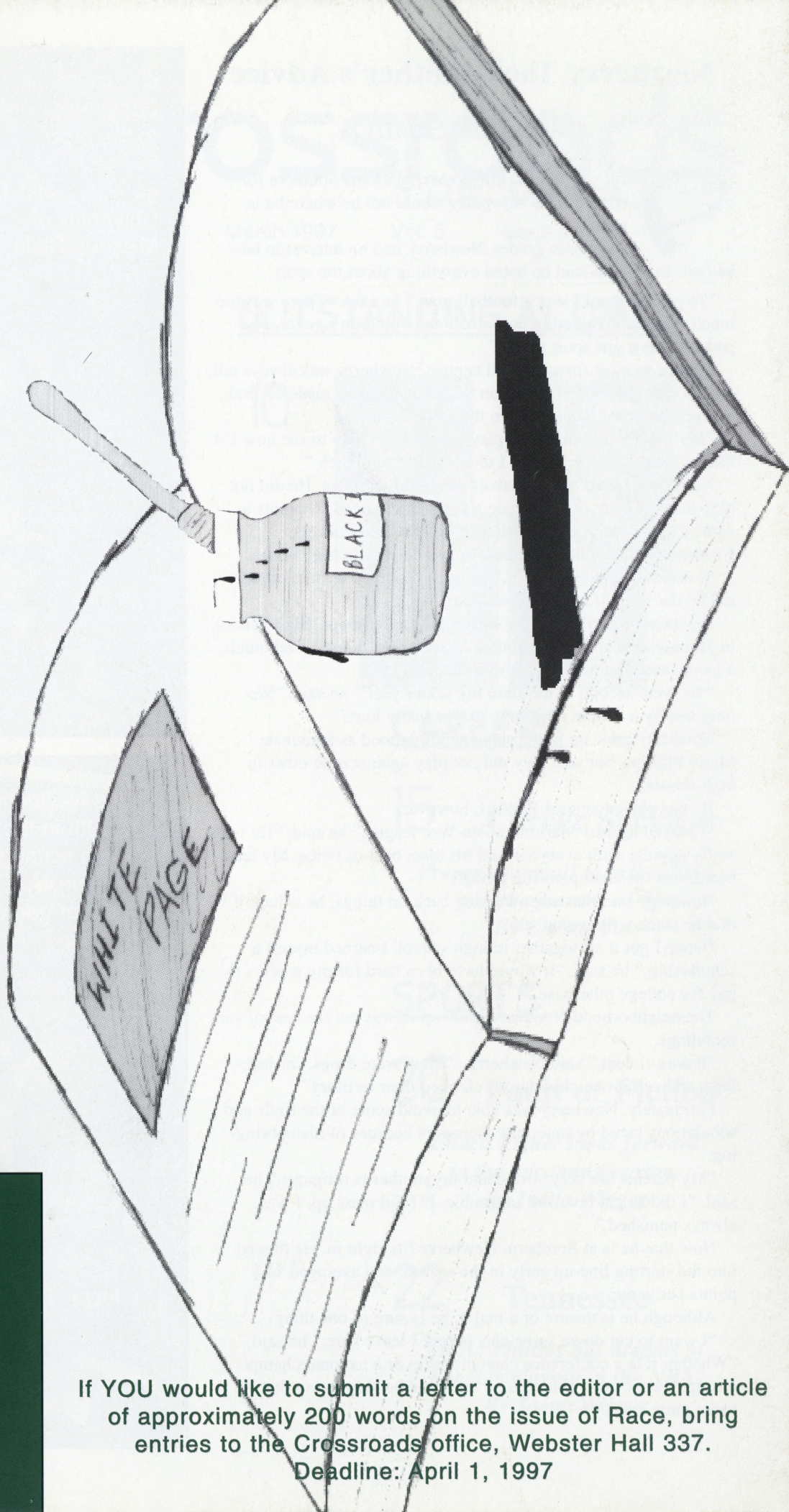


PHOTO BY DEBORAH SOLOMON



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